

The Presiding Officers' Advisory Task Force on Creating a Future for Youth in Maine

2nd Meeting - October 2, 2003

Woodbury Campus Center, University of Southern Maine, Portland

Creating Solutions – Recommendations to Retain and Attract Youth

- 2:00-2:15 p.m. Convening of the Meeting and Introductions**
Speaker Patrick Colwell and Honorable Elizabeth Mitchell, co-chairs
- Welcome and introduction of task force members
 - Review of task force duties and focus

- 2:15-2:30 p.m. Welcoming Remarks - University of Southern Maine**
Richard L. Pattenaude, President, University of Southern Maine
Karl Braithwaite, Dean, Muskie School of Public Service, USM

- 2:30-6:00 p.m. Public Testimony - What Can We Do to Retain and Attract Youth?**
Invited guests and interested parties

Invited guests include:

- Presidents and students of: University of Southern Maine, University of Maine School of Law, University of New England, Southern Maine Community College, Maine College of Art
- Principals and students of: Portland High School, Deering High School
- John Fitzsimmons, President, Maine Community College System
- Representative Larry Bliss, Career Services, USM
- Dahlia Bradshaw Lynn, Muskie School of Public Service, USM

The Task Force invites speakers to address the following questions:

1. If the Legislature could do one thing to retain/attract young people to Maine, what would you recommend?
2. What strategies would you recommend for Maine to retain/attract:
 - High school students deciding where to attend college
 - College students deciding where to live and work after graduation
 - College graduates in their late 20s/early 30s deciding where to settle
3. As a high school or college student, what information have you received about education and job opportunities in Maine? What strategies would you recommend for getting information to students about opportunities in Maine?
4. Do you think a student loan forgiveness program for recent college graduates who remain, return, or come to Maine would be an effective in retaining or attracting young adults? What would make such a program effective?

- 6:00 p.m. Wrap-up and Discussion Among Task Force Members**